



STATE OF IOWA

Chester J. Culver, GOVERNOR
Patty Judge, LT. GOVERNOR

IOWA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION
RALPH ROSENBERG
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DRAFT MINUTES Iowa Civil Rights Commission January 10, 2008 Meeting

- I. Roll Call—Eychaner; Morain; Tutt; Claypool; Gronstal, Gitchell, and Witt (on the phone); Ralph and Crystal Schrader (VISTA);
- II. Recognition of Public and Press --Dana Boone (media)
- III. Iowa Civil Rights Commission ---Approval of October Minutes—as received
- IV. Commissioners' Reports and Subcommittee Reports
Commissioner Alicia Claypool—immigration coalition report; participation in workforce shortage conference, including the section on diversity; discussion on 'Dec.'s radio row event; Full copy of report was separately emailed.

Commissioner Debbie Gitchell—attended U of Iowa Center for Human Rights meeting on immigration history and current issues; attended meeting sponsored by the City of Ames regarding problems facing newcomers with schools law enforcement and other areas. The newcomers are from Chicago and are African/American. The city called the meeting to air all sides of the issues. The Mayor has appointed a Task Force and the Police Chief has also appointed a Task Force.

Commissioner Rich Eychaner —met with legislators on immigration issues; made presentations to Iowa Comprehensive Human Services Meeting and to Workforce Investment Act/Displaced Workers meeting on new civil rights law. Attended the presentation of the Black Youth Student Report presentation

Commissioner Connie Gronstal—noticed anti-Clinton comments based on sex
Commissioner Rick Morain – Jefferson—no report
Commissioner Timothy Tutt – Des Moines—no report
Commissioner Nancy Witt –Reinbeck—referral from person with mental health

- V. Executive Director's Report
 1. By the end of our first year—we had to reduce staff down to 1980 levels—22
 - i. Now we are up to 29 (less than in past years) but significant improvement
 - ii. Hiring new staff; reducing backlog; improving case work
 - iii. Hiring law students
 - iv. 4 VISTA and closer work with the locals,
 - v. Design and construction work/testing work
 2. Appropriations—flat state; EEOC cuts
 3. Statutory changes
 4. Implementation issues—SO-GI; anti bullying
 5. VISTA
 6. Legal aid

7. FHIP and DED grants
8. Events—fair housing events; Edna Griffin events; IGOV events

- VI.** Next Meetings-- Dates and Location—there was some discussion about a regional hearing-
Sioux City – League of Iowa Human Rights Agencies legislative breakfast is Feb. 28, at the
Capitol, from 7:30 to 9.
1. Thursday, March 27 at 3:30 p.m.
 2. Thursday, May 15--
 3. July (around Edna Griffin celebration)
 4. August 7 or 14
 5. Oct. 16th
- VII.** Discussion of League meeting from last night
- VIII.** Adjournment